

Amendments to the Specification

Please remove the header at the top of each page of the specification, as follows:

~~WO 2005/085550~~

~~PCT/EP2004/008967~~

Please insert the following subtitles prior to the paragraph beginning line 3 on page 1:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

--TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION--

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, beginning line 3, as follows:

--The invention relates to a natural stone panel floor, ~~whereby the~~ comprising floor panels and joint spacers, thereof wherein the floor panels are made completely out of natural stone and are laid at a distance from each other on an essentially flat base.--

Please insert the following subtitle prior to the paragraph beginning line 7 on page 1:

--PRIOR ART--

Please insert the following three paragraphs prior to the paragraph o page 1, beginning line 21:

--A panel floor is known from the patent application WO 02/077389 A1. In this application the panels are composite panels with only a thin natural floor on top. The panels are hold together by joint spacers, which clip into a groove with an undercut in a soft layer. Therefore the panels are not very strongly locked and can easily drift vertical. The spacers do not extend fully to the top of the panel and a separate cover strip is inserted into the joint.. The spacer does not give a precise height position and it is not intended for sealing panels with a chamfer.--

--Furthermore from the patent application US 4,599,841 a spacer for panels fitted with grooves is known, which is T-shaped and holds lateral clamping webs with coarse retention

teeth upwards and downwards. Therefore they only take a coarse height position. The vertical part of the spacer does not fill the chamfers of the panel.--

--From the European patent application EP 1 146 182 A2 joint spacers with clamping webs on both sides are known which support coarse retention lamellas. By this, the spacer has an imprecise height position and the floor gets unevenness. The spacers do not extend fully to the top of the panel and a separate cover strip is inserted into the joint.--

Please insert the following subtitle prior to the paragraph beginning line 21 on page 1:

--OBJECT AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, beginning line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

--It is the aim of the invention to create a loosely laid natural stone panel floor which exhibits a mostly-flat, joint-free surface and which is easy to lay and to take up again.--

Please delete the paragraph on page 2, beginning line 9, as follows:

~~--Favourable embodiments are indicated in the subclaims.--~~

Please insert the following subtitle prior to the paragraph beginning line 9 on page 3:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

Please insert the following subtitle prior to the paragraph beginning line 12 on page 3:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT(S)
OF THE INVENTION--